REMARKS

Claims 9-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-7 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited in those claims. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116(b)(1) since the amendments cancel rejected claims 1-7, and comply with a requirement of form (amending the title as required by the Examiner). Entry of the amendments under 37 C.F.R. §1.116(b)(1) is thus respectfully requested.

The Office Action, in paragraph 3, objects to the title of the invention as not descriptive. The title is amended to obviate the objection in accordance with the helpful suggestions provided in the Office Action. Withdrawal of the objection to the title is respectfully requested.

The Office Action, in paragraph 16, states that claims 9-18 are allowed. Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 9-18.

The Office Action, in paragraph 5, rejects claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5.838,370 to Kaji; and in paragraph 13, rejects claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaji in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,365,302 to Kodama. The cancellation of claims 1-7 renders these rejections moot.

Applicant understands that because claims 9-18 are allowed, and claims 1-7 are canceled by this Amendment, there are no appealable issues under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §41.31. As such, a Notice of Appeal is not being filed regarding this application.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

Mario A. Costantino Registration No. 33,565

Daniel A. Tanner, III Registration No. 54,734

MAC:DAT

Attachment:

Petition for Extension of Time

Date: November 4, 2005

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